

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A vibration-damping link comprising:

5 a metal body that is elongate in a longitudinal direction and that interconnects a first end sleeve and a second end sleeve, both of which are part of the body, said first and second sleeves being provided with respective ones of first and second passageways that extend through the body along respective ones of first and second axes;

10 at least one inner strength member surrounded by a first sleeve and mounted to move inside the first passageway;

at least one ring surrounding the inner strength member and adapted to be inserted into and to be held in the first passageway, said ring also extending along an axis; and

15 at least one flexible coupling made of elastomer, interposed between the inner strength member and the ring, wherein at least the first sleeve is provided with at least a first edge surrounding the first passageway and provided with at least one deformed zone that is deformed by punching the metal body, so as to form a protuberance co-operating with the ring.

20 2. A vibration-damping link according to claim 1, provided with a second edge surrounding the first passageway and provided with at least one deformed zone that is deformed by punching the metal body, so as to form a protuberance co-operating with the ring, the first and second edges surrounding the axial orifices of the first passageway (9).

3. A vibration-damping link according to claim 1, provided with a plurality of deformed zones that are deformed by punching the metal body and that are distributed around the first passageway.
4. A vibration-damping link according to claim 1, provided with a deformed zone that is deformed by punching the metal body and that surrounds the passageway continuously.
5. A vibration-damping link according to claim 1, in which at least one of the deformed zones that is deformed by punching the metal body exerts stress on the ring that is adapted to deform said ring towards the first axis.
6. A vibration-damping link according to claim 1, in which the ring is made of a plastics material.
7. A method of manufacturing a vibration-damping link according to claim 1, comprising steps consisting in:
 - fitting the assembly constituted by the ring, by the flexible coupling and by the inner strength member into the first passageway while causing the axes in which the first passageway and the ring extend to coincide; and in
 - deforming by punching at least one zone of the first edge of the first sleeve, so as to form a protuberance co-operating with the ring.
8. A manufacturing method according to claim 7, in which a plurality of sectors of the first edge of the first sleeve are deformed.
9. A manufacturing method according to claim 7, in which the first edge of the first sleeve is deformed circularly and continuously around the first passageway.

10. A manufacturing method according to claim 7, in which the first edge and a second edge that surround respective ones of the axial orifices of the first passageway are punched.
- 5 11. A vibration-damping link according to claim 2, provided with a deformed zone that is deformed by punching the metal body and that surrounds the passageway continuously.
12. A manufacturing method according to claim 8, in which the first edge and a second edge that surround respective ones of the axial orifices of the first passageway are punched.
- 10 13. A manufacturing method according to claim 9, in which the first edge and a second edge that surround respective ones of the axial orifices of the first passageway are punched.